

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/684,076

Examiner

Long Nguyen

Applicant(s)

NAUTIYAL ET AL.

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 12/2/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael Maddox on 12/28/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims

Claim 1, line 9, "to the control" has been changed to --to control--.

Claim 5, line 3, "first access control transistor" has been changed to --first one of said access control transistors--.

Claim 5, line 5, "second access control transistor." has been changed to --second one of said access control transistors.--.

Claim 15, line 3, "and second" has been changed to --and a second--.

Reasons For The Above Changes

The above changes have been made to correct the minor informalities in the claims so that the claims are clear.

Response to Amendment

2. The objections to the drawings and the specification in the last office action have been overcome based on applicant's amendment to the specification.

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3. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, has been overcome based on applicant's amendment to the claims.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Claim 1 is allowed for the same reason as indicated in the last office action, i.e., the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the sense amplifier includes, in combination with other limitations, the feedback means, the access control transistors and the set of inverters with the recited connections and operations set forth therein.

Claims 2-6 are allowed because they depend on claim 1.

Claim 7, is allowed for the same reason as indicated in the last office action, i.e., the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest the sense amplifier includes, in combination with other limitations, a feedback circuit, a first access transistor and a second access transistor with the recited connections and operations set forth therein.

Claims 8-14 are allowed because they depend on claim 7.

Claim 15, as amended, is allowed because applicant's argument is found persuasive. In particular, the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest that the sense amplifier includes, in combination with other limitations, the first and second inverters having their outputs coupled to respective first and second line of the first and second latch inverters; wherein the first and second inverters are not cross-coupled to each other.

Claims 16-20 are allowed because they depend on claim 15.

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Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directly to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 28, 2004



Long Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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